

AMENDMENT

Listing of Claims:

The following listing of claims replaces all previous listings or versions thereof:

1. (currently amended) An isolated and purified DNA encoding an infectious GBV-C, wherein the DNA comprises a nucleic acid sequence encoding ~~encodes~~ an amino acid sequence that is at least 99% ~~70%~~ identical to SEQ ID NO:2.
- 2.-3. (canceled)
4. (currently amended) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein the DNA molecule is about 9.4 kilobases in length.
5. (currently amended) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein the DNA molecule comprises SEQ ID NO:1.
6. (original) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, further comprising a heterologous nucleic acid sequence.
7. (original) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 6, wherein the heterologous nucleic acid sequence encodes a polypeptide.
8. (original) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 6, wherein the polypeptide is a mammalian polypeptide.
9. (original) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, further comprising a heterologous promoter.
10. (original) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 9, wherein the heterologous promoter promotes transcription in a prokaryote.

11. (original) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 10, wherein the promoter is T7, T3, or Sp6.

12.-62. (canceled)

63. (currently amended) The isolated and purified DNA of claim 1, wherein the DNA comprises a nucleic acid sequence encoding ~~eneodes~~ an amino acid sequence that is at least 80% identical to SEQ ID NO:2.

64. (cancelled)

65. (previously presented) The isolated and purified DNA of claim 1, wherein the DNA comprises 500 contiguous nucleotides that are identical or complementary to SEQ ID NO:1.

66. (previously presented) The isolated and purified DNA of claim 65, wherein the DNA comprises 1000 contiguous nucleotides that are identical or complementary to SEQ ID NO:1.

67. (previously presented) The isolated and purified DNA of claim 66, wherein the DNA comprises 2000 contiguous nucleotides that are identical or complementary to SEQ ID NO:1.

68. (previously presented) The isolated and purified DNA of claim 67, wherein the DNA comprises 5000 contiguous nucleotides that are identical or complementary to SEQ ID NO:1.

69. (previously presented) The isolated and purified DNA of claim 1, wherein the DNA comprises a 3' ntr or a 5' ntr of GBV-C.

70. (previously presented) The isolated and purified DNA of claim 69, wherein the DNA comprises a 3' ntr and a 5' ntr of GBV-C.

71. (new) An isolated and purified DNA encoding GBV-C, wherein the DNA comprises a nucleic acid sequence encoding an amino acid sequence that is at least 99% identical to SEQ ID NO:2.